

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D. C. 20549  
FORM 10-Q

☒ QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 1990

OR

☐ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 1-8491

HECLA MINING COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

82-0126240

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

6500 Mineral Drive

Box C-8000

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

(Address of principal executive offices)

83814-1931

(Zip Code)

208-769-4100

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

<u>Title of each class</u>	<u>Name of each exchange on which each class is registered</u>
Common stock, par value 25¢ per share )	
Liquid Yield Option Notes Due 2004 )	New York Stock Exchange
Preferred Share Purchase Rights )	Pacific Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months, and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for at least the past 90 days. Yes XX. No \_\_\_\_.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Outstanding October 31, 1990</u>
Common stock, par value 25¢ per share	27,010,873 shares

HECLA MINING COMPANY and CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

FORM 10-Q

FOR THE QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1990

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## PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## HECLA MINING COMPANY and CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
(dollars in thousands)

	September 30, 1990 (Unaudited)	December 31, 1989
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 17,829	\$ 13,086
Accounts and notes receivable	29,112	17,487
Inventories	10,413	14,486
Investments	1,318	2,431
Other current assets	871	1,661
Total current assets	59,543	49,151
Investments	10,396	10,269
Properties, plants and equipment	277,267	262,031
Less accumulated depreciation, depletion and amortization	(116,673)	(106,172)
Other noncurrent assets	8,046	6,919
Total assets	\$ 238,579	\$ 222,198
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 10,250	\$ 9,853
Accrued payroll	2,543	2,397
Accrued taxes	2,217	1,361
Deferred income taxes	28	761
Total current liabilities	15,038	14,372
Deferred income taxes	4,350	3,742
Deferred revenue	2,131	2,525
Long-term debt	68,709	64,760
Other noncurrent liabilities	8,208	7,563
Total liabilities	98,436	92,962
Minority interest in consolidated subsidiary (Note 1)	3,469	- -
<u>SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</u>		
Preferred stock, 25¢ par value, authorized 5,000,000 shares, none issued	- -	- -
Common stock, 25¢ par value, 50,000,000 shares authorized; issued 1990 - 27,071,047 shares, 1989 - 27,062,101 shares	6,768	6,766
Capital surplus	53,687	53,600
Earnings retained in the business	77,431	70,326
Net unrealized loss on marketable equity securities	(306)	(635)
Less common stock reacquired at cost; 1990 - 60,174 shares, 1989 - 54,618 shares	(906)	(821)
Total shareholders' equity	136,674	129,236
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 238,579	\$ 222,198

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

## HECLA MINING COMPANY AND CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (Unaudited)

(dollars and shares in thousands, except for per-share amounts)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	Sept. 30, 1990	Sept. 30, 1989	Sept. 30, 1990	Sept. 30, 1989
Sales of products	\$ 38,989	\$ 25,287	\$ 103,444	\$ 74,834
Cost of sales and other direct production costs	28,922	18,853	74,741	54,788
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	5,035	4,759	13,678	12,812
	<u>33,957</u>	<u>23,612</u>	<u>88,419</u>	<u>67,600</u>
Gross profit	<u>5,032</u>	<u>1,675</u>	<u>15,025</u>	<u>7,234</u>
Other operating expenses:				
General and administrative	1,882	1,916	6,193	6,073
Exploration	2,919	2,624	5,146	6,732
Research	- -	8	- -	422
Depreciation and amortization	<u>131</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>408</u>	<u>364</u>
	<u>4,932</u>	<u>4,695</u>	<u>11,747</u>	<u>13,591</u>
Earnings (loss) from operations	<u>100</u>	<u>(3,020)</u>	<u>3,278</u>	<u>(6,357)</u>
Other income (expense):				
Interest and other income	2,885	823	6,748	1,608
Other expense	(2)	(1)	(3)	(1,623)
Loss on investments	(247)	- -	(32)	- -
Minority interest in net income of consolidated subsidiary (Note 1)	(34)	- -	(34)	- -
Interest expense:				
Total interest cost	(1,484)	(1,421)	(4,297)	(3,370)
Less amount capitalized	<u>107</u>	<u>195</u>	<u>430</u>	<u>743</u>
	<u>1,225</u>	<u>(404)</u>	<u>2,812</u>	<u>(2,642)</u>
Income (loss) before income taxes	<u>1,325</u>	<u>(3,424)</u>	<u>6,090</u>	<u>(8,999)</u>
Income tax provision (benefit)	<u>806</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>(1,015)</u>	<u>178</u>
Net income (loss)	<u>\$ 519</u>	<u>\$ (3,457)</u>	<u>\$ 7,105</u>	<u>\$ (9,177)</u>
Net income (loss) per share	<u>\$ 0.02</u>	<u>\$(0.13)</u>	<u>\$ 0.26</u>	<u>\$(0.34)</u>
Cash dividends per share	<u>\$ - -</u>	<u>\$ - -</u>	<u>\$ - -</u>	<u>\$ - -</u>
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding	27,010	27,004	27,010	27,004

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



## HECLA MINING COMPANY and CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)  
(dollars in thousands)

	Nine Months Ended	
	Sept. 30, 1990	Sept. 30, 1989
Operating activities:		
Net income (loss)	\$ 7,105	\$ (9,177)
Noncash elements included in net income (loss):		
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	14,086	13,176
Gain on disposition of properties, plants and equipment	(2,949)	(87)
Deferred tax provision	608	-
Interest on long-term debt	3,949	1,461
Loss on investments	32	-
Gain on sale of properties to consolidated subsidiary	(1,113)	-
Equity in net income of consolidated subsidiary (Note 1)	(38)	-
	<u>21,680</u>	<u>5,373</u>
Change in accounts and notes receivable	(10,976)	(2,385)
Change in inventories	4,073	990
Change in other current assets	815	(32)
Change in accounts payable and accrued expenses	235	1,164
Change in accrued taxes and other	123	245
Change in noncurrent liabilities	645	977
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>16,595</u>	<u>6,332</u>
Investing activities:		
Change in investments	(396)	127
Additions to properties, plants and equipment	(15,866)	(29,682)
Proceeds from disposition of properties, plants and equipment	3,624	664
Proceeds from sale of investments	1,394	-
Purchase of consolidated subsidiary, net of cash received	1,136	-
Other, net	(1,454)	(303)
Net cash applied to investing activities	<u>(11,562)</u>	<u>(29,194)</u>
Financing activities:		
Proceeds from bank borrowings	-	40,000
Repayment of bank borrowings	-	(57,000)
Reduction in deferred revenue	(294)	(293)
Issuance of long-term debt	-	59,813
Acquisition of treasury stock	(85)	(13)
Common stock issued under stock option plan	89	28
Net cash provided by (applied to) financing activities	<u>(290)</u>	<u>42,535</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents:		
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	4,743	19,673
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	<u>13,086</u>	<u>319</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	<u>\$ 17,829</u>	<u>\$ 19,992</u>
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Cash paid (received) during period for:		
Interest (net of amount capitalized)	\$ -	\$ 1,166
Income tax payments (refunds), net	(3,061)	(949)
Noncash financial and investing activity:		
Note payable assumed by purchaser of property	300	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

HECLA MINING COMPANY and CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- Note 1. The notes to the financial statements as of December 31, 1989, as set forth in the Company's 1989 Annual Report, substantially apply to the interim financial statements ended September 30, 1990, and are not repeated here.

In addition, on July 10, 1990, Hecla Mining Company acquired 52.5% of the common stock outstanding of Acadia Mineral Ventures Limited (Acadia), a Canadian company, in exchange for cash and mineral property interests. The consolidated financial statements reflect 100% of the assets, liabilities and earnings of Acadia. Because Hecla Mining Company is a majority stockholder in Acadia, the ownership interest of the other stockholders is reflected as a minority interest.

- Note 2. The financial information given in the accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements reflect all normal and recurring adjustments which, in the opinion of management, are necessary to a fair statement for the periods reported. All financial statements presented herein are unaudited. The balance sheet as of December 31, 1989 has been derived from the audited balance sheet.

- Note 3. The components of the income tax provision (benefit) for the nine months ended September 30, 1990 and 1989 are as follows (in thousands):

	<u>1990</u>	<u>1989</u>
Current:		
State income taxes	\$ 113	\$ 178
Federal income tax benefit	(2,001)	- -
Additional federal income tax provision associated with prior years' taxes, and interest thereon	- -	394
Total current	(1,888)	572
Deferred provision (benefit)	873	(394)
Total	<u><u>\$ (1,015)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 178</u></u>

The Company's income tax provision for the first nine months of 1990 varies from the amount that would have been provided by applying the statutory rate to the income before income taxes due to the use of the alternative minimum tax rate offset by tax refunds on the settlement of IRS audits.

- Note 4. Inventories consist of the following (in thousands):

	<u>Sept. 30, 1990</u>	<u>December 31, 1989</u>
Concentrates and metals in transit and other products	\$ 2,730	\$ 6,509
Industrial mineral products	2,041	2,928
Materials and supplies	5,642	5,049
	<u><u>\$ 10,413</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 14,486</u></u>



## HECLA MINING COMPANY and CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

Note 5. Various legal actions and claims are pending against the Company and certain of its subsidiaries. The Company has been notified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that it has been designated by the EPA as a potentially responsible party with respect to a superfund priority list site located in the State of Colorado and a second site located in the State of Washington. In October 1989, the Company was notified by the EPA that it was also identified by the EPA as a potentially responsible party at the Bunker Hill superfund site located in northern Idaho. The Company has been named as a third party defendant in two separate lawsuits originally brought by the State of Colorado to recover natural resource damages and response costs under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability ACT (CERCLA) at two Colorado mining sites. The Company is also named as one of a number of defendants in a suit brought under CERCLA by the United States Government to recover response costs at one of the sites subject to the State of Colorado litigation. Although the ultimate disposition of these actions is not presently determinable, it is the opinion of the Company's management, based upon the information available at this time, that the outcome of the suits and proceedings mentioned, and other miscellaneous litigation and proceedings now pending, will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries.

On March 29, 1989, the Company negotiated a settlement of the lawsuit brought by private party plaintiffs claiming damages resulting from operations conducted by the Company's predecessor in interest, Ranchers Exploration and Development Corporation, at an Arizona mine site. As part of the settlement, the Company paid \$1.6 million to reimburse the plaintiffs for a substantial portion of their costs to construct the current mine water treatment facility located at the mine site, and a substantial portion of the plaintiffs' legal fees and costs incurred in the litigation.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Results of Operations

First Nine Months 1990 Compared to First Nine Months 1989

Net income of approximately \$7.1 million was realized in the first nine months of 1990 compared to a loss of approximately \$9.2 million incurred in the same period of 1989. Sales of products increased by \$28.6 million in the first nine months of 1990 as compared to the 1989 period, primarily due to increased gold production at the Republic mine; gold production at the Yellow Pine mine, which resumed production in the second quarter of 1990; an increase in production at the Greens Creek mine due to a full nine months of operation in 1990, whereas operations commenced in March in the 1989 period; an increase in the shipments of kaolin from Kentucky-Tennessee Clay Company's Kaolin Division; increased scoria sales from Colorado Aggregate Company; and



## HECLA MINING COMPANY and CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

increases in the average prices of gold and lead for the first nine months of 1990 as compared to the same 1989 period. These increases were partially offset by decreased silver production, principally at the Escalante mine; decreased shipments of ball clay from Kentucky-Tennessee Clay Company's Ball Clay Division; and decreases in the average prices of silver and zinc for the nine months ended September 30, 1990.

Costs of sales and other direct production costs increased by \$20 million from the 1989 period to the same 1990 period, principally a result of a full nine months' costs at the Greens Creek mine and Kentucky-Tennessee Clay Company's Kaolin Division, both of which operated over shorter periods during the 1989 period; initial costs at the Apex Project at which operations began in the second quarter of 1990 but were temporarily suspended during the third quarter due to metallurgical, operational and marketing difficulties; initial costs at the Yellow Pine mine which resumed operations in the 1990 period after being suspended during the entire 1989 period; and the increased costs of production at Colorado Aggregate Company attributable to the new aquarium gravel facility. Depreciation, depletion and amortization increased by approximately \$.9 million, primarily a result of the commencement of production at the Apex Project and the Yellow Pine mine during 1990, an increase in the operating periods in the 1990 period at the Greens Creek mine and Kentucky-Tennessee Clay Company's Kaolin Division, all of which were partially offset by decreased depreciation at the Escalante mine where all assets were fully depreciated in 1989.

Other operating expenses decreased by \$1.8 million in the 1990 period compared to the same 1989 period, primarily a result of decreased exploration activity during the 1990 period.

Other income (expense) increased by \$5.5 million, a direct result of the \$1.6 million settlement relating to environmental issues at the Old Reliable, Arizona property in 1989, nonrecurring in the 1990 period; the \$2.0 million gain on sale of the Golden Dome property; the \$1.1 million gain on sale of properties to Acadia Mineral Ventures Limited; the \$.8 million gain on sale of Coeur d'Alene land; and increased interest income related to settlements of prior years' IRS audits during 1990. Partially offsetting these items was an increase in interest expense attributable to borrowings under the long-term debt.

The income tax benefit recognized for the first nine months of 1990 reflects the benefit of refunds due from settlements of prior years' IRS audits, partially offset by the estimated tax liability on the taxable income for 1990 on a year-to-date basis.

Total gold production increased by 76% to 109,000 ounces in the first nine months of 1990 from 62,000 ounces in the 1989 period. This increase is primarily due to increased gold production at the Republic mine and the Greens Creek mine and gold production in 1990 at the Yellow Pine mine, where operations were suspended during 1989. The Company's share of silver production increased by 5% to 4.5 million ounces in the first nine months of 1990 compared to 4.3 million in the



## HECLA MINING COMPANY and CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

same 1989 period, primarily due to increased production at the Greens Creek mine during the 1990 period, partially offset by decreased production at the Escalante mine, which ceased operations in the third quarter of 1990 after exhausting the known silver ore reserves.

Prices for gold and silver have the greatest impact on the Company's sales and net income (loss) from the metals segment. The average gold price increased 2% to \$385 per ounce in the first nine months of 1990 from \$378 in the same 1989 period, but the average price of silver decreased 9% to \$5.03 per ounce in the 1990 period from \$5.54 in the 1989 period.

Three Months Ended September 30, 1990 Compared to  
Three Months Ended September 30, 1989

Net income of \$.5 million was realized in the three-month period ended September 30, 1990 compared to a net loss of \$3.5 million incurred in the same period of 1989. Sales of products increased by \$13.7 million in the three-month period ended September 30, 1990 compared to the same 1989 period primarily due to increased gold production at the Republic mine; increased production at the Greens Creek mine; gold production at the Yellow Pine mine; and an increase in average prices of gold and lead; all of which were partially offset by decreased silver production at the Escalante mine; and a decrease in the average prices of silver and zinc during the third quarter of 1990 as compared to the third quarter of 1989.

Cost of sales and other direct production costs increased by \$10.1 million due to the high initial operating costs at the Apex Project which suspended operations on August 3, 1990, and the operating costs of the Yellow Pine mine in 1990, which was suspended during the 1989 period. Depreciation, depletion and amortization increased by \$.3 million in the three-month period ended September 30, 1990 compared to the same 1989 period due also to the start-up of the Apex Project and the operations at the Yellow Pine mine during 1990, partially offset by no depreciation in 1990 at the Escalante mine, where the assets were fully depreciated in 1989.

Other operating expenses increased by \$.2 million from \$4.7 million in the 1989 period to \$4.9 million due to increased exploration expenditures during the 1990 period.

Other income (expense) increased by approximately \$1.6 million due primarily to the \$1.1 million gain on sale of properties to Acadia Mineral Ventures Limited and the \$.8 million gain on sale of Coeur d'Alene land in the three-month period ending September 30, 1990, partially offset by increased interest expense in the 1990 period attributable to borrowings under the LYONs issuance.

Gold production increased 129% from 21,600 ounces in the 1989 period to 49,400 in the third quarter of 1990, principally due to commencement of operations at the Yellow Pine mine during the 1990 period and increased gold production at the Greens Creek mine in the 1990 period compared to the 1989 period. The Company's share of silver production



HECLA MINING COMPANY and CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

decreased 11% to 1,350,000 ounces in the third quarter of 1990 from 1,512,000 in the third quarter of 1989, primarily due to decreased silver production at the Escalante mine and the Greens Creek mine, partially offset by increased silver production at the Lucky Friday mine.

For the three months ended September 30, 1990 as compared to the same period of 1989, the average gold price increased 4% from \$367 in 1989 to \$382 in 1990, but the average silver price decreased 6% from \$5.18 in 1989 to \$4.88 in the same 1990 period.

Financial Condition and Liquidity

From the end of 1989 through the third quarter of 1990, cash and cash equivalents increased by \$4.7 million from \$13.1 million to \$17.8 million. Operations provided \$16.6 million in net cash for the nine months ended September 30, 1990. The major uses of cash were for capital expenditures of \$14.2 million related primarily to the Apex Project, the Republic Accelerated Decline Project, the Greens Creek mine, Kentucky-Tennessee Clay Company's Ball Clay and Kaolin Divisions, and the Republic mine.

Planned capital expenditures for the remainder of 1990 are expected to be approximately \$6.4 million. These expenditures are expected to be funded through internally generated funds and existing cash equivalents. At September 30, 1990, the Company had no outstanding bank loan balance against its \$75 million bank credit line.

A substantial portion of the Company's revenues are derived from the sale of commodities, the prices of which are subject to worldwide supply and demand. The Company cannot significantly affect the market prices for these products. Prices may change dramatically in short periods of time and such prices have a significant effect on revenues and profits of the Company. The Company has experienced increased costs because of inflation, but the costs of production remain relatively unchanged over the short term although they are generally subject to the same inflationary pressures experienced by the entire economy. In addition, inflation has affected, and will continue to affect, the interest rates paid by the Company, the effect of which on the Company's profitability will vary with the amount of the Company's borrowings at any time. However, the market prices for products produced by the Company have a much greater impact than inflation on the Company's revenues and profitability.

The discovery, development and acquisition of mineral properties are in many instances unpredictable events. Future metals prices, the success of exploration programs and other property transactions can have a significant impact on the need for capital. One of the primary reasons for the maintenance of the bank credit line is to have funds readily available to allow the Company flexibility in structuring mineral acquisitions or ventures. The Company believes it has the flexibility to adjust its activities to cope with changing economic conditions.



PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

HECLA MINING COMPANY and CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

HECLA MINING COMPANY and CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

See Note 5 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements on page 7 of this report.

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

(a) Exhibits

None

(b) Reports on Form 8-K

None

Items 2, 3, 4 and 5 of Part II are omitted from this report as inapplicable.

HECLA MINING COMPANY and CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

HECLA MINING COMPANY

(Registrant)

Date: November 9, 1990

By /s/ ARTHUR BROWN  
Arthur Brown, Chairman, President  
and Chief Executive Officer

Date: November 9, 1990

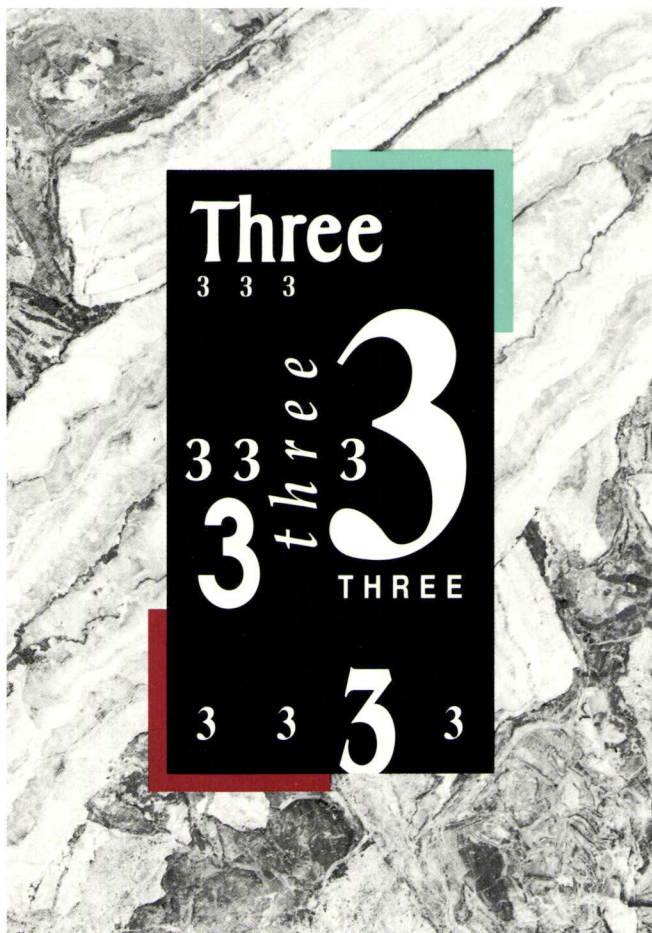
By /s/ J. T. HEATHERLY  
J. T. Heatherly,  
Vice President - Controller  
(Chief Accounting Officer)



# HECLA MINING COMPANY

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## REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS



For the Quarter Ended  
September 30, 1990



# TO OUR SHAREHOLDERS

Hecla earned \$519,000, or 2¢ a share, in the third quarter of 1990, compared to a net loss of \$3.5 million, or 13¢ a share, in the third quarter of 1989. Improved results are a reflection of increased gold production, lower costs at the silver operations, and a higher average gold price compared to the same period last year. An increase in other income is a result of a \$1.1 million gain on the sale of Canadian properties to Acadia Mineral Ventures Limited and an \$853,000 gain on a Coeur d'Alene land sale. In the first nine months of 1990, Hecla earned \$7.1 million, or 26¢ a share, on revenue of \$110.2 million. This compares to a loss in the first nine months of 1989 of \$9.2 million, or 34¢ a share, on revenue of \$76.4 million.

Although we have managed to remain profitable despite low prices, I am sure you have all been concerned, as I have been, about the recent prices of silver and our stock. Let me reassure you that these recent fluctuations have to do with the vagaries of the world silver market, rather than any problems with operations. Our silver properties are performing efficiently, our gold operations are doing very well and the industrial minerals properties continue to provide a steady profit. I cannot predict the future price of silver, but I believe it is undervalued at the present time and that the market will improve in the longer term.

Hecla's balance sheet remains strong, with cash and cash equivalents of \$17.8 million, an increase of \$7.1 million in the third quarter. In the first nine months of 1990, the Company's operating properties generated \$20.8 million in cash flow, enabling us to invest about \$16 million primarily in gold development and exploration projects. The Company's current ratio is a healthy 4 to 1.

*(continued)*



Gold production rose to 109,494 ounces during the first nine months of this year compared to 61,650 in the same period last year, a result of increased production at the Republic and Yellow Pine Units. The Yellow Pine mine, located in Central Idaho, produced 37,836 ounces of gold in the first nine months of 1990, most of it in the third quarter. The Republic Unit in northeast Washington has produced 62,535 ounces of gold so far this year, compared to about 55,000 ounces in the first nine months of 1989. Republic is an extremely low-cost gold mine, with an average 1990 cash cost per ounce of gold of \$124. Yellow Pine has an average cash cost of \$240 per ounce. The accelerated development project at Republic is ahead of schedule and under budget, and new ore reserves are being discovered in the current phase of the project.

The Greens Creek mine in Alaska is operating well, producing silver at an average cash cost of about \$2.00 an ounce. Other good news at Greens Creek is the expansion of ore reserves, extending the remaining life of the mine to about 20 years at current production rates. Greens Creek, now in its first full calendar year of production, has become a solid producer. The Lucky Friday silver-lead mine in North Idaho is continuing normal operations, producing silver at an average cash cost per ounce of about \$4.50. We are stressing cost control at the Lucky Friday, hoping to weather the storm of low silver prices. At this writing, we have no plans to suspend operations there. In Utah, the Escalante Unit milled its final silver ore in August, and reclamation is under way.

The average price of gold increased from \$367 an ounce in the third quarter of 1989 to \$382 in the third quarter of this year. Silver took the opposite course, dropping from an average of \$5.18 an ounce in the third quarter of 1989 to \$4.88 in the third quarter of 1990. *200 coming by 10/91 @ latest*

Our industrial minerals operations, consisting of ball clay, kaolin and specialty aggregates, continue to provide a stable income for Hecla, realizing a gross profit of \$2.5 million and a positive cash flow of \$4.6 million for the year to date.

Specialty metals incurred a third quarter loss of \$1.3 million, primarily as a result of temporary suspension of operations at the Apex germanium-gallium mine in Utah. A research and development project to evaluate new feedstocks for the Apex plant is proceeding.

In August, Joe Coors, Jr. was elected to the Board of Directors. Joe, who is President and Chief Executive Officer of Coors Ceramics Company, fills a vacancy on the board created by the retirement of Norman Visnes. I know Joe will enrich our board membership with his extensive exposure to industrial minerals.

As you know, we are experiencing a period of market unrest in the precious metals industry. Such fluctuations in metals and mining stock prices are not unusual in a cyclical business like ours. In this environment, I am pleased that Hecla remains profitable. We will stay the course toward increasing our gold production, while continuing to control silver production costs. Meanwhile, performance at the industrial minerals operations is fulfilling our strategy of mining a diversity of metals and minerals to stabilize our Company's income.



Arthur Brown  
*Chairman, President and  
Chief Executive Officer*

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho  
November 9, 1990



# RESULTS IN BRIEF

*Hecla Mining Company and consolidated subsidiaries*

*(dollars in thousands, except per-share amounts)*

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## Total revenue

## Net income (loss)

## Net income (loss) per share

---

## Sale of products

Gold operations

Silver operations

Specialty metals operations

Industrial minerals

---

Total sales

---

## Gross profit (loss)

Gold operations

Silver operations

Specialty metals operations

Industrial minerals

---

Total gross profit

---

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

*Hecla Mining Company and consolidated subsidiaries*

*(dollars in thousands)*

---

## Assets

### Current assets:

Cash and cash equivalents

Accounts and notes receivable

Inventories

Investments

Other current assets

---

Total current assets

---

### Investments

Properties, plants and equipment, net

Other noncurrent assets

---

Total assets

---

---

## Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity

### Current liabilities:

Accounts payable and accrued expenses

Accrued taxes

Deferred income taxes

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Total current liabilities

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### Deferred income taxes

Deferred revenue

Long-term debt

Other noncurrent liabilities

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Total liabilities

---

Minority interest in consolidated subsidiary

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Shareholders' equity

---

Total liabilities and shareholders' equity

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Third Quarter		First Nine Months	
1990	1989	1990	1989
<b>\$41,874</b>	\$ 26,110	<b>\$ 110,192</b>	\$ 76,442
<b>\$ 519</b>	\$ (3,457)	<b>\$ 7,105</b>	\$ (9,177)
<b>\$ 0.02</b>	\$ (0.13)	<b>\$ 0.26</b>	\$ (0.34)
<b>\$18,280</b>	\$ 6,720	<b>\$ 40,957</b>	\$ 21,650
<b>11,579</b>	10,191	<b>33,950</b>	27,500
<b>361</b>	—	<b>786</b>	—
<b>8,769</b>	8,376	<b>27,751</b>	25,684
<b>\$38,989</b>	\$ 25,287	<b>\$ 103,444</b>	\$ 74,834
<b>\$ 4,662</b>	\$ 4,144	<b>\$ 17,991</b>	\$ 13,398
<b>1,046</b>	(3,196)	<b>(1,652)</b>	(9,425)
<b>(1,331)</b>	—	<b>(3,802)</b>	—
<b>655</b>	727	<b>2,488</b>	3,261
<b>\$ 5,032</b>	\$ 1,675	<b>\$ 15,025</b>	\$ 7,234
		<b>September 30,</b>	<b>December 31,</b>
		<b>1990</b>	<b>1989</b>
		(Unaudited)	
		<b>\$ 17,829</b>	\$ 13,086
		<b>29,112</b>	17,487
		<b>10,413</b>	14,486
		<b>1,318</b>	2,431
		<b>871</b>	1,661
		<b>59,543</b>	49,151
		<b>10,396</b>	10,269
		<b>160,594</b>	155,859
		<b>8,046</b>	6,919
		<b>\$238,579</b>	\$222,198
		<b>\$ 12,793</b>	\$ 12,250
		<b>2,217</b>	1,361
		<b>28</b>	761
		<b>15,038</b>	14,372
		<b>4,350</b>	3,742
		<b>2,131</b>	2,525
		<b>68,709</b>	64,760
		<b>8,208</b>	7,563
		<b>98,436</b>	92,962
		<b>3,469</b>	
		<b>136,674</b>	129,236
		<b>\$238,579</b>	\$222,198



# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (Unaudited)

*Hecla Mining Company and consolidated subsidiaries*

For the Three-Month and Nine-Month Periods Ended September 30, 1990  
and September 30, 1989

*(dollars and shares in thousands, except per-share amounts)*

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Sales of products

---

Cost of sales and other direct production costs

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Depreciation, depletion and amortization

---

Gross profit (Note 1)

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Other operating expenses:

General and administrative

Exploration

Research

Depreciation and amortization

---

Earnings (loss) from operations

---

Other income (expense):

Interest and other income

Other expense

Gain (loss) on investments

Minority interest in net income of  
consolidated subsidiary

Interest expense:

Total interest cost

Less amount capitalized

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Income (loss) before income taxes

---

Income tax provision (benefit)

---

Net income (loss)

---

Net income (loss) per share

---

Cash dividends per share

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Weighted average number of common shares outstanding

**Note 1:** The gross profit for business segments is as follows:

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Metals

---

Industrial Minerals

---

Gross profit

---

Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
Sept. 30, 1990	Sept. 30, 1989	Sept. 30, 1990	Sept. 30, 1989
<b>\$38,989</b>	\$ 25,287	<b>\$ 103,444</b>	\$ 74,834
<b>28,922</b>	18,853	<b>74,741</b>	54,788
<b>5,035</b>	4,759	<b>13,678</b>	12,812
<b>33,957</b>	23,612	<b>88,419</b>	67,600
<b>5,032</b>	1,675	<b>15,025</b>	7,234
<b>1,882</b>	1,916	<b>6,193</b>	6,073
<b>2,919</b>	2,624	<b>5,146</b>	6,732
<b>—</b>	8	<b>—</b>	422
<b>131</b>	147	<b>408</b>	364
<b>4,932</b>	4,695	<b>11,747</b>	13,591
<b>100</b>	(3,020)	<b>3,278</b>	(6,357)
<b>2,885</b>	823	<b>6,748</b>	1,608
<b>(2)</b>	(1)	<b>(3)</b>	(1,623)
<b>(247)</b>	—	<b>(32)</b>	—
<b>(34)</b>	—	<b>(34)</b>	—
<b>(1,484)</b>	(1,421)	<b>(4,297)</b>	(3,370)
<b>107</b>	195	<b>430</b>	743
<b>1,225</b>	(404)	<b>2,812</b>	(2,642)
<b>1,325</b>	(3,424)	<b>6,090</b>	(8,999)
<b>806</b>	33	<b>(1,015)</b>	178
<b>\$ 519</b>	\$ (3,457)	<b>\$ 7,105</b>	\$ (9,177)
<b>\$ 0.02</b>	\$ (0.13)	<b>\$ 0.26</b>	\$ (0.34)
<b>—</b>	—	<b>—</b>	—
<b>27,010</b>	27,004	<b>27,010</b>	27,004

Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
Sept. 30, 1990	Sept. 30, 1989	Sept. 30, 1990	Sept. 30, 1989
<b>\$4,377</b>	\$ 948	<b>\$12,537</b>	\$3,973
<b>655</b>	727	<b>2,488</b>	3,261
<b>\$5,032</b>	\$1,675	<b>\$15,025</b>	\$7,234



# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)

*Hecla Mining Company and consolidated subsidiaries*

For the Nine-Month Periods Ended September 30, 1990 and 1989

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
<i>(dollars in thousands)</i>	<b>1990</b>	1989
Operating Activities:		
Net income (loss)	<b>\$ 7,105</b>	\$ (9,177)
Noncash items included in net income (loss)	<b>14,575</b>	14,550
Change in operating assets and liabilities	<b>(5,085)</b>	(18)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<b>16,595</b>	5,355
Net cash applied to investing activities	<b>(11,562)</b>	(29,194)
Net cash provided by (applied to) financing activities	<b>(290)</b>	43,512
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	<b>4,743</b>	19,673
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	<b>13,086</b>	319
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	<b>\$17,829</b>	\$19,992

## Average Metal Prices

	Third Quarter		First Nine Months	
	<b>1990</b>	1989	<b>1990</b>	1989
Gold (dollars/ounce)	<b>382</b>	367	<b>385</b>	378
Silver (dollars/ounce)	<b>4.88</b>	5.18	<b>5.03</b>	5.54
Lead (cents/pound)	<b>39</b>	32	<b>38</b>	30
Zinc (cents/pound)	<b>72</b>	78	<b>72</b>	80

## Gold and Silver Production

	Third Quarter	
	<b>1990</b>	1989
Gold (ounces)	<b>49,359</b>	21,604
Silver (ounces)	<b>1,350,138</b>	1,512,316
	First Nine Months	
	<b>1990</b>	1989
Gold (ounces)	<b>109,494</b>	61,650
Silver (ounces)	<b>4,514,621</b>	4,325,074







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**Mining Company**

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Mine Permit Number MO210004 Mine Name Esalante Silver  
Operator Hecla Mining Co. Date 10-31, 1990  
TO \_\_\_\_\_ FROM \_\_\_\_\_

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